

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 4, 2004
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 12, 2004

SENATE BILL

No. 1652

Introduced by Senator Murray

February 20, 2004

~~An act to add Chapter 11.3 (commencing with Section 19875) to Part 3 of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to solar energy.~~
An act to add Section 25402.10 to the Public Resources Code, relating to solar energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1652, as amended, Murray. Residential solar energy systems.
Existing law requires a solar energy system to meet applicable standards and requirements imposed by state and local permitting authorities.
This bill would require, on and after January 1, 2006, at least 25% _____ of all single-family residences, constructed as part of a development of at least 25 homes and a density of at least 20 homes per acre that is offered for ~~resale~~ sale, to be constructed with a solar photovoltaic energy system for each unit.
Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

1 (a) Air pollution is a serious and widespread public health and
2 environmental problem in California, with economic
3 ramifications.

4 (b) California has ongoing energy affordability and reliability
5 issues. The construction of new centralized powerplants comes at
6 a great cost to the state and to ratepayers in the form of increased
7 air pollution, and expensive construction, permitting, and
8 infrastructure costs.

9 (c) California currently relies on natural gas for the bulk of its
10 electricity needs, and increasing energy demands put pressure on
11 limited natural gas supplies and threaten rising costs.

12 (d) More than 150,000 homes will be built annually in
13 California in the coming years, threatening energy reliability and
14 affordability, and increasing air pollution.

15 (e) California has vast solar energy resources that can be
16 harnessed to generate electricity and reduce the consumption of
17 natural gas.

18 (f) Installing solar photovoltaic home energy systems on new
19 homes can significantly improve air quality by offsetting energy
20 otherwise provided by fossil-fuel powerplants and by preventing
21 the need to build new fossil-fuel powerplants to meet growing
22 energy needs.

23 (g) Increasing California's solar power market will also bring
24 additional manufacturing, installation, and sales jobs to the state
25 at a higher rate than natural gas powerplants.

26 (h) Ultraclean distributed generation, such as solar
27 photovoltaic systems, benefits all ratepayers by preventing the
28 need for expensive infrastructure associated with centralized
29 powerplants.

30 (i) Installing solar energy systems during construction is a
31 cost-effective way of realizing all of the benefits of this
32 technology.

33 ~~SEC. 2. Chapter 11.3 (commencing with Section 19875) is~~
34 ~~added to Part 3 of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code, to~~
35 ~~read:~~

36
37 ~~CHAPTER 11.3. RESIDENTIAL SOLAR ENERGY CONSTRUCTION~~
38

39 ~~19875. For purposes of this chapter:~~

40 ~~(a)~~

SEC. 2. Section 25402.10 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

25402.10. (a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Solar photovoltaic system" means any photovoltaic solar collector or other photovoltaic solar energy device whose primary purpose is to provide for the collection, storage, and distribution of solar energy for electric generation.

~~(b)~~

(2) "Solar energy system" does not include an electric plant as defined by Section 217 of the Public ~~Utility~~ Utilities Code.

~~19875.1. (a)~~

(b) On and after January 1, 2006, a minimum of ~~25~~ _____ percent of single-family residences constructed as part of a development of at least 25 homes per project ~~and with a density of not more than 20 homes per acre~~ that is intended or offered for ~~resale~~ sale shall be constructed with solar photovoltaic energy systems that produce an average of at least two kilowatts alternating current of electrical power per residence. This minimum percentage of single-family residences shall increase by an additional ~~10~~ _____ percent each year until January 1, 2010.

~~(b) Subdivision (a)~~

(c) Subdivision (b) shall not prevent an owner or developer from installing both solar photovoltaic and solar thermal systems in excess of this minimum standard.

SEC. 3. It is the intent of the Legislature to create an incentive to both promote the use of solar energy systems in new housing and reduce overall energy consumption from the grid by directing the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to partially count energy generation from solar energy systems towards the energy conservation compliance budget for a new home.